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## VILLA MAY FIND HIMSELF IN A TRAP

### Has Scattered His Forces and Federal Troops Have Begun March Toward Chihuahua

## HUERTA'S SOLDIERS ARE NOW 200 MILES AWAY

### Effect of Attack Would Be to Cut Villa's Army Off From Bases at Border—Messages From Rebel Headquarters Urge Villa to Modify His Attitude Toward Foreigners—Mexican Congress Adjourns, Huerta Assumes all Powers

Juarez, Mex., Dec. 15.—While rebel headquarters in Juarez today was sending urgent messages to General Francisco Villa, the rebel commander at Chihuahua, today he was receiving the displeasure of foreign countries in his actions toward Spaniards and other foreigners, and asking him to modify his attitude, General Villa himself was said to be secretly concerned over renewed federal activities.

**Federals Advance on Chihuahua.**  
Reports were received today from advancing toward Chihuahua from Torreon, about 200 miles south. Villa has had to scatter his forces by sending troops to several points. He has evacuated Juarez and Chihuahua. This was said to offer the federals an opportunity to strike Chihuahua, which they evacuated when Villa had all his forces together. Federal troops were also reported on their way to Mier, where with a view of strengthening the position of the Huerta government in the interior.

**Rebels May Be Trapped.**  
An attack on Chihuahua, which is not regarded as imminent, would cut Villa off from any base on the border. The rebels conceded that the first act of the federals, should they arrive in the vicinity of Chihuahua, would be to stop all telegraph and railroad communication. Thus the federal evacuation of Chihuahua, which occurred two weeks ago and enabled Villa to enter the state capital without a battle, would prove to be a military trap out of which the rebels would have to fight their way.

**Food and Clothing at Half Price.**  
The situation at Chihuahua, on account of the protest of Spaniards against their expulsion from Mexico, was less critical. It was understood arrangements were made for the sending of an official inquiry from the American government to the Consul General, Leitcher, Villa was making progress with the disposal of goods which he seized from the Spaniards. All the foodstuffs and clothing in the Spanish retail stores were sold at less than half price, and constitutional money was accepted.

**Reported Loan from Terrazas.**  
Word came that Luis Terrazas, Jr., for whose release from prison an appeal was sent to Secretary of State Bryan, already had secured loans to Villa. This took the form of checks in small denominations, aggregating \$20,000, and the checks were being used as currency.

**Consuls Not Molested.**  
Secretary Bryan has no information that they were.

**Washington, Dec. 15.**—Except for a telegram from Consul Leitcher telling of threats of expulsion of Spaniards and confiscation of their property, the state department late today had received no official information concerning reported indignities to other foreigners by Mexican rebels at Chihuahua. Secretary Bryan said today that he had no interference with Consul Leitcher's telegram by the constitutionalists and that, so far as he has been able to learn, the rebels had made no use of any of the foreign consuls.

**The secretary announced that on account of a break in the wire communication between Chihuahua and Juarez, American Consul Edwards at the latter place had decided to avail himself of the services of G. D. Carrothers, consular agent at Torreon, who arrived at El Paso today on his return to his post by way of Chihuahua. Mr. Carrothers will carry any communications which Mr. Edwards has and will assist Mr. Leitcher at Chihuahua until the situation is normal there.**

**CONGRESS ADJOURNS.**  
Huerta to Be "The Whole Thing" Until Next April.

Mexico City, Dec. 15.—From now until April 3 President Huerta will be obliged to conduct the government without congress. This specially created organization was formally adjourned today. Its most important acts during the session were the ratification of the president's exercise of power over the various departments of the government, after dissolving the preceding congress, and regranting to the president this same power which gave General Huerta, until congress convenes again, practically the sway of a dictator.

**The rebel General Villa's treatment of the Spaniards at Chihuahua has aroused the keen sympathies of the colony here.** The Spanish minister, General Coloman y Coloman, sent to Washington today, through the American charge, Nelson O'Shaughnessy, his thanks for the efforts made by the American government to relieve his countrymen at that place.

**The situation at Tampico is declared by the government to be satisfactory.** Late railway reports indicate that the rebels in their retreat took away only four locomotives and enough cars to make up four trains. Reports from other parts of Mexico concern the usual number of minor engagements and rebel depredations.

**No Comment on Spain's Attitude.**  
Washington, Dec. 14.—The announcement that Spain was disposed to commit the safeguarding of her interests in Mexico to the United States brought forth no formal comment at the state department. It was explained, however, that efforts were being made to urge the constitutionalists not to discriminate against Spaniards or any foreigners or their property.

**Federals Cut to Pieces.**  
Laredo, Texas, Dec. 15.—One hundred and ninety-six federal dead were counted after a battle with constitutionalists at Salinas, thirty miles north of Monterey last Friday, according to a telephone report received at constitutionalist headquarters here today. The report said a force of 350 federalists enroute to reinforce the Nuevo Laredo garrison, encountered 800 rebels under Santos Coy, and were cut to pieces. No federalists were killed, it was asserted.

## Cabled Paragraphs

### Dominican Officials Resign.

Santo Domingo, Dec. 15.—The Dominican minister of war, General Alvarez, and the minister of the interior, General Yopez, resigned today.

**Tunnel Falls in on Train.**  
Chemnitz, Germany, Dec. 15.—At least four persons were killed and 34 others injured by the crushing of a passenger train in a neighboring tunnel which collapsed during a slight earthquake at midnight.

**Mrs. Pankhurst Starts "Sleep Strike."**  
London, Dec. 15.—Miss Sylvia Pankhurst, the militant suffragette agitator, since her imprisonment Dec. 10, has adopted the more drastic method of adding a "no sleep strike" to her "hunger and thirst strike." She accomplishes this by continually walking. Her friends expect her release shortly, as she is said to be on the point of collapse.

**Volcanic Eruption in Ambrim Island.**  
Melbourne, Australia, Dec. 15.—Despatches from Noumea, capital of the French colony of New Caledonia, report that great destruction has been wrought by a volcanic eruption in Ambrim Island, of the New Hebrides group. No casualties are reported among the white population, whose numbers are small, but it is feared that many natives in the interior perished.

**BATTLESHIPS RETURN FROM MEDITERRANEAN.**  
No Coal, Oil or Provisions Bought During Absence of Seven Weeks.

New York, Dec. 15.—The battleships Wyoming, Arkansas, Utah and Florida came into port today out of the sea, after a five days' cruise. They were a part of the fleet that left Hampton Roads Oct. 25 for the Mediterranean on a pleasure trip for officers and men, which was to demonstrate that a squadron of United States battleships can cross the Atlantic and return without having recourse to foreign ports for supplies. The fleet comprised nine battleships, and not an ounce of coal, oil or provisions was purchased during the absence of more than seven weeks. This is a record in the United States navy, the officers said today. Three coilers and medical corpsmen, whose duty was to supply the fleet with necessary supplies, enough to have sustained the fleet much longer if necessary, it was said.

**COURTMARTIALS OF SOME OFFICERS POSSIBLE.**  
Burlesqued at Caraboa Dinner—President Withdraws Membership.

Washington, Dec. 15.—President Wilson tonight formally withdrew his recent acceptance of honorary membership in the Philippine Islands during the four years succeeding the Spanish-American war.

**PEACE TREATY WITH THE NETHERLANDS.**  
Secretary Bryan and Netherlands Minister Agree on Terms.

Washington, Dec. 15.—Secretary Bryan and Chevalier Van Rappard, the Netherlands minister, today agreed upon the terms of a peace treaty embodying the principles of the arbitration plan announced early in the present administration. This will be the seventh of the peace treaties since first negotiated with a European nation.

**SEVENTEEN KILLED IN THE MAINE WOODS.**  
Several Arrests for Carelessness During "Big Game" Season.

Bangor, Maine, Dec. 15.—Maine's big game season came to an end tonight, close time on deer beginning at midnight. Rough estimates placed the number of deer killed at 10,000 and the number of moose at 200. The moose season ended November 15.

**FOUR YEAR TERM FOR AN 18 YEAR OLD GIRL.**  
Found Guilty of Complicity in Murder of Her Sweetheart.

Crowley, La., Dec. 15.—Dora Murff, 18 years old today, was sentenced to prison for four years for the part she played in the killing of J. M. Delhaye, her former sweetheart. Her stepsister, M. Duval, was sentenced to a year in prison. Delhaye was shot on a street here and the girl said she killed him, but testimony showed that Duval fired the fatal shot.

**Lawlessness to Be Probed.**  
Calumet, Mich., Dec. 15.—The grand jury investigation into lawlessness in the copper country arising from the strike will be thoroughly investigated, according to the instruction of Judge O'Brien today. He informed the jury it would be probed to inquire into any branch of peace or crime alleged to have been an outgrowth of the strike.

**Steamship Arrivals.**  
Christiania, Dec. 14.—Arrived, steamer Oscar II, New York for Copenhagen.

**Dr. Heller's Explanation.**  
Dr. Joseph M. Heller, secretary of the Washington corral of the Caraboa, issued a statement tonight expressing regret on behalf of the members of the order, particularly those who had to do with Thursday night's dinner, that any feature of the programme had given offense.

**Withdraws Claim for Alimony.**  
New York, Dec. 15.—Mrs. Joseph A. Blake today withdrew her motion to compel her husband to pay her \$15,000 alimony. One of the attorneys said today that the withdrawal of alimony motion did not mean that the pair might become reconciled.

**A \$20,000 Memorial Window.**  
New York, Dec. 15.—A memorial window dedicated to the late Whitelaw Reid, was unveiled today at the cathedral of St. John the Divine. It is the gift of Mrs. Reid and cost \$20,000. The Son of Man as described by Revelations is the central figure.

**Was Pure Fun-Making.**  
"At all our previous dinners it has been pure fun-making."

## Wilson Resents Army Satires

### Root Attacked by Democrats

**COURTMARTIALS OF SOME OFFICERS POSSIBLE.**  
Burlesqued at Caraboa Dinner—President Withdraws Membership.

Washington, Dec. 15.—Although the republican national committee will not decide the question of whether it shall call an extraordinary party convention until its formal meeting tomorrow, many arguments for and against such action were made tonight at a dinner given to the committeemen by Chairman Charles D. Hilles. In a speech that preceded the discussion of the merits of the question, Mr. Hilles outlined at length the matters which the committee and a convention, if called, will be asked to settle, gave some of the arguments on each side, and declared that in any event the republican party should get together.

**Accused of Unwarrantably Attempting to Alarm the Public—Passage of Administration Bill Pressaged.**

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**Must Not Surrender Principles.**  
The national chairman did not disclose his personal views on the advisability of an extraordinary convention, but called upon other committeemen to debate the matter.

**Five Important Questions.**  
He announced that five important questions to be decided by the committee tomorrow involved the recognition of state laws as to the manner of choosing delegates; minimizing the number of contests for seats in conventions; terminating the tenure of representation automatically upon the election of their successors; creation of a new tribunal to hear contestants, and changing the basis of representation.

**Demanded 17 Percent Increase in Wages.**  
The American Silk Spinning company mill at Providence will be closed today to allow its 500 employees to attend the funeral of Henman Wyss, its superintendent.

**Elizabeth Donnelly, 19 Years Old, Is in a Hospital in New York with her arm swollen to twice its normal size.** Police think she is another victim of the "poisoned needle."

**The Holders of 818,578 Outstanding Shares of Stock of the United Wireless Telegraph company will share in a \$100,000 dividend, which will be declared by a trustee in bankruptcy.**

**Harry Phillips, 28 years old, an electrical engineer of Belleville, N. J., is dead from bichloride of mercury poisoning.** He took the tablets in mistake for a headache cure.

**Mrs. Clifford Russell, 16 years of age, of Bloomfield, is in the Hartford hospital in a dying condition, due to burns received when her clothing took fire at her home yesterday.**

**Jesse Slavov, principal of the night school in Slavov, N. J., is accused of pupils that by an action of the School Board all pupils over 16 years of age are to be permitted to smoke in school.**

**A Christmas Tree 65 feet high escorted by 2,000 children will be brought from the pier and placed in Independence square under the direction of the Child Federation in Philadelphia.**

**Mrs. Seth Irby, wife of a farmer at Augusta, Ga., was murdered in the presence of her two little daughters by a bullet from a shotgun which came to the Irby house to collect a fifty cent debt.**

**Many Monkeys, guinea pigs and mice are brought to the United States for experimental purposes that the importation of mammals has increased from 2,000 five years ago to 17,500 last year.**

**Ernest Trilbhorn, president of a New York real estate concern, was fined \$500 and sentenced to 25 days in jail yesterday for renting an apartment which he knew was to be used as a disreputable resort.**

**Henry Spencer, convicted murderer of Mildred Alben-Rexroat, will not have next year's retrial postponed yesterday granted him a stay of execution for four weeks to give time for an appeal to the Illinois supreme court.**

**Louis Joseph Was Absolved by a coroner's jury yesterday from blame for the killing of his son, while they were hunting in Milo, Me.** The jury found that although the son was killed by a bullet from his father's rifle, the elder Joseph was not at fault.

**The Suffolk County Grand Jury reported yesterday that it had not found sufficient evidence to warrant an indictment against anyone for responsibility for the deaths of 38 men in the fire that destroyed the Arcadia lodging house in Boston on December 3.**

**Blackwell's Island Prisoners Mal-treated.**  
New York, Dec. 15.—Instances of gross mistreatment of prisoners, and of alleged inhuman management at the Blackwell's Island penitentiary have been uncovered by a supreme court grand jury which has been secretly investigating the institution. In one instance a prisoner is said to have died as a result of cruel treatment.

**German Vessel Bottom Up.**  
Emden, Germany, Dec. 15.—An iron vessel floating bottom up off Schiermonnikoog, an island in the North Sea, is believed to be the German steamer Narvik from Lubeck. The pilot's body has been found, but there is no trace of the crew of thirty.

**Weds in Switzerland.**  
St. Moritz, Switzerland, Dec. 15.—Miss Edith Wormser, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Isidore Wormser, of New York, was married here today to Nathaniel Goucheux, of New York and Paris. The wedding was a very quiet one.

## Condensed Telegrams

### Justice for the Blacks of South

**ARGUMENT AGAINST NEW BASIS OF REPRESENTATION**

**SET FORTH BY HILLES**

**National Chairman Addresses Members of Republican National Committee—Five Questions to be Decided**

Washington, Dec. 15.—Victory for the administration forces in the first test of strength on the currency reform bill marked today a serious step toward the defeat of the currency reform bill, proposing a system of four regional banks, with a possible increase of eight to ten seats in the senate. The defeat of this amendment practically insured the adoption of the Owen plan which provides for from eight to twelve regional banks, with the stock owned by the national banks. The democratic leaders claim that the result of the test vote, involving one of the most important features of the fight, indicated the complete success of the administration measure.

**Final Action Expected This Week.**  
Efforts to get an agreement for a time to begin final voting on the bill were not successful today, but leaders on both sides of the chamber looked forward to a final action before the end of the week.

**When the Hittcock substitute had been tabled, Senator Reed made a speech vigorously defending the Owen bill and replying to Senator Root, who on Saturday attacked the measure and called Secretary Bryan a dominating influence behind the proposed new currency system.**

**Reed's Reply to Root.**  
"No one has the right to stand on the floor of the senate and undertake to alarm the public mind of the country when there is no just cause for it. I doubt the high patriotism of the man who would cry 'Wolf, wolf,' when there is no wolf who will take this chance of injuring the multitude who may be misled by such a cry."

**Senator Reed said a "typewritten document" proposing Senator Root for the treasury, which he prepared and given to the press before he made his speech. "It is not difficult then to understand why the secretary of state was brought in to make a call to higher honors, it is not difficult to understand that men will sometimes let their ambition overcome their spirit of fairness and candor."**

**Bankers Will Be to Blame.**  
"If we ever have inflation of the currency under this bill it will be caused by the bankers of the country and by no one else. If Mr. Bryan was all that he has been painted by his enemies; even if he favored inflation of the currency, which no one has the right to charge, even if his influence was to stand back of this proposed federal reserve board and to control the money market, he could not put out one dollar of additional currency until there had been a call made upon the regional banks, which would be controlled by the 'sound money men,' who run the national banks."

**Turning Over Reserves to Bankers.**  
Senator Hittcock made a sharp attack on the proposed control of the regional reserve banks by the bankers of the country. He declared this feature of the bill would turn over the country's reserves to the bankers and would legalize the methods and the combinations of control against which the country has long protested.

**Quoting the speech of Senator Stone, Saturday, in which the latter attacked A. R. Hepburn and Frank A. Vandervort of New York, who were in Washington, as representatives of a class of bankers who were fighting effectively to keep the country from the control of the currency system of the country would be turned over to the other banks.**

**Root a Great Man.**  
Democratic senators renewed the criticism of Senator Root's speech at the night session of the senate. Senator Williams, referring to the president's statement that he had been advised by Senator Root to call for the regional reserve banks by the bankers of the country, declared it was "wonderful what wreck can be wrought in a sound mind by a presidential bias."

**He characterized Senator Root as a great man who had recently been awarded the Nobel peace prize but added: "I have never been able to satisfy myself why." He declared the "plutocratic press" had heralded Senator Root's speech as a great attack on the currency bill. He stated that Senator Root's premises were entirely wrong. No inflation of the currency could result from the proposed law," he said, because of the restraining influence of the federal reserve board.**

**Special Convention Immediately.**  
Two distinct propositions to be considered by the national committee tomorrow were agreed upon late today by members of the committee, who dined with Chairman Hilles and talked at length into the night over the programme for the meeting. The propositions are: That a special convention of the republican party be called immediately to revise the basis of representation in future conventions and make certain changes in methods of procedure.

**Basis of Representation.**  
That the committee itself fix a basis of representation for party conventions and submit them to the state republican conventions for ratification, the changes to become effective when approved by the convention of the states in which was cast two-thirds of the total republican vote in the election of 1908.

**Members leaving the conference said the meeting had been quite harmonious, the only incident to ruffle the conference being a dispute between William Barnes, Jr., of New York and Senator Borah over the 1913 convention.**

**No Aeroplane Plan Service.**  
Washington, Dec. 15.—After a lively discussion the house today voted down a bill approved by Postmaster General Burleson authorizing the postmaster general to enter into contracts for transporting the mail by aeroplane or by any other similar device when deemed to be the public interest. Secretary of War Taft also supported the measure for remote parts of the United States, particularly in arctic sections and in Alaska.

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